LAURA ASHLEY

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OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE FINANCE

Please reply to Fax No: 020 7880 5111

5 May 2004

BY SWIFTAIR

Securities and Exchange Commission Office of International Corporate Finance 450 Fifth Street, NW Washington DC 20549 **USA**

Dear Sir

LAURA ASHLEY HOLDINGS plc FILE NO 82-1356

Pursuant to the exemptions granted to Laura Ashley Holdings plc (the "Company") under Rule 12g3-2 (b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, please find enclosed announcement released to the London Stock Exchange by the Company.

Please receipt stamp the enclosed copy of this letter and return it to the undersigned in the envelope provided.

Yours faithfully

David Cook

Company Secretary

cc. Mr. Brian Teitelbaum (Citibank)

5 May 2004

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Laura Ashley Holdings pice of INTERNATIONAL ("the Company")

Announcement of Non-Executive Director Resignation

The Company received notification on 4 May 2004 from Mr Nick Bernard Ashley of his intention not to seek re-election to the Board at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 17 June 2004.

Commenting on Mr Ashley's decision, Tan Sri Dr Khoo Kay Peng, Chairman said:

"Nick has made an invaluable contribution to Laura Ashley over many years. His creative experience and expertise have been greatly appreciated and his support for the brand has been unfaltering. Nick has been a valued member of the Board and will be missed on both a personal and professional level."

Enquiries

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Company Secretary

020 7880 5100

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Brunswick

020 7404 5959

James Olley